U.S. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a co	Patent and Tradem ffice: U	PTO/SB/30 (10-01) hrough 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031 S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE displays a valid OMB control number
DEC 0 9 2002 C REQUEST	Application Number	00/554 567
FOR	Filing Date	September 1, 2000
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)	First Named Inventor	Adriano Aguzzi
TRANSMITTAL	Art Unit	1644
Address to: Commissioner for Patents	Examiner Name	Jessica Roark
Box RCE Washington, DC 20231	Attorney Docket Number	6458.US.O1
This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.  Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.		

RECEIVED Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114 DEC 1 1 2002 a. Previously submitted Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR 1.116 previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_\_ (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered). TECH CENTER 1600/2900 Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_ \_\_ Other b. X Enclosed Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) X Amendment/Reply Formal Drawings, Return Receipt Postcard Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) Miscellaneous Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required) Other Fees The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 01-0025 X RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e) 12/09/2002 SLUANG1 00000007 010025 09554567 Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17) 01 FC:1801 740.00 CH Other b. Check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ enclosed c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed) WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038. SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED Name (Print/Type) Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) Lisa V2 Mueller Signature CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below. Wanda E. Smith Name (Print/Type) Signature Date

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.

DEC 1 1 2002

TECH CENTER 1600/2900



**PATENT** 

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: A. Aguzzi, et al.

Serial No.: 09/554,567

Filed: September 1, 2000

For: DIAGNOSTICS AND THERAPETUICS
FOR TRANSMISSIBLE SPONGIFORM
ENCEPHALOPATHY AND METHODS
FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF NONINFECTIVE BLOOD PRODUCTS AND

TISSUE DERIVED PRODUCTS

Examiner: J. Roark

Group Art Unit: 1644

Case No.: 6458.US.O1

Date: November 21, 2002

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8 (a))

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the:

Box RCE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231, on:

Date of Deposit: December \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2002

Wanda C Smith 12/b/02
Wanda F Smith Date

## **Amendment and Response**

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed on July 09, 2002, please amend the above-referenced application as follows. A Request for Continued Examination accompanies this response.

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

35. (Amended). A method of identifying TSE-infected B cells associated with transmissible spongiform encephalopathy in a test sample, the method comprising the steps of:

obtaining a test sample;

collecting B-cells from the test sample;

1